

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 22, 2022

The Honorable Richard Neal
Chairman
Committee on Ways and Means
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady
Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Neal and Ranking Member Brady:

We request that you, as leading members of the *America COMPETES Act* conference committee with the Senate, retain section 101601 of the House-passed bill to permanently extend the Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC). Working people we represent have been facing significant financial uncertainty since the expiration of the HCTC at the start of this year. They need continued access to affordable health care through this credit in order to weather both the current economic climate and the continued effects of the trade and pension issues that triggered their HCTC eligibility in the first place. The ongoing lapse in the HCTC must be addressed, and this bipartisan conference committee has an opportunity to right this wrong.

The HCTC program expired on December 31, 2021. The HCTC is available to retirees age 55-65 who have had their defined benefit pension plans trusted by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) due to their employer's bankruptcy or restructure and who are receiving payments. It also assists workers eligible for Trade Adjustment Assistance. These workers' spouses and families are also eligible for the HCTC benefit.

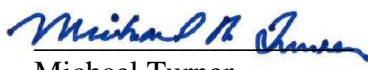
This program has been reauthorized seven times since its inception in 2002, benefitting thousands of American workers and their families. Extending the HCTC is also the disposition of our bipartisan legislation, H.R. 6339, the Health Coverage Tax Credit Reauthorization Act of 2021, which reauthorizes the tax credit through 2025.

We again urge you to retain section 101601 of the House-passed *America COMPETES Act* and permanently extend this integral tax credit. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jared F. Golden
Member of Congress



Michael Turner
Member of Congress



Tim Ryan
Member of Congress

cc: The Honorable Earl Blumenauer
The Honorable Vern Buchanan
The Honorable Danny Davis
The Honorable Adrian Smith
The Honorable Suzan DelBene
The Honorable Darin LaHood
The Honorable Judy Chu
The Honorable Carol Miller
The Honorable Dan Kildee
The Honorable Jimmy Gomez